

# JEWISH OBSERVER

## AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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### JEWISH OBSERVER AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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## WORLD JEWISH ASSEMBLY

### GOLDMANN'S JEREMIAD

From Jon Kimche

**Geneva, Wednesday:** It was 8.30 in the evening of a significant anniversary—August 4, thirty-nine years after the opening of the first World War. There came the sharp familiar rap from the chairman in the historic *Salle du Conseil General*, birthplace of international organisation, where both the League of Nations and the World Jewish Congress had first met in session.

On the high rostrum stood Dr. Nahum Goldmann, the Acting-President of the World Jewish Congress. Before him were the representatives of the United States, France, Canada, Austria, Israel, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands—but not from the United Kingdom; there were also official representatives from the United Nations, the Friends, the Red Crosses, the World Council of Churches, the Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and about 200 Jewish delegates from the five continents.

**An Impassioned Warning:** On the reading table before Dr. Goldmann there lay a neatly typed speech of some 12,000 words—21 pages. But any relationship between the 16,000 words speech he delivered and the one he had prepared was largely accidental. He had prepared a somewhat philosophic survey; he delivered an impassioned warning to the Jewish people.

**A Twofold Task:** The Jewish people he said, had suffered a great tragedy and had won a great triumph; they had lost a third of their people and had created their own state. Both these events would dominate Jewish history for decades.

The Jewish task was accordingly twofold: they had to liquidate the result of the tragedy and consolidate their victory—Israel. The Assembly should deal "more rationally and prosaically" with these problems than could be done five years ago.



W.J.C. Acting-President Nahum Goldmann with predecessor, the late Stephen Wise.

### REPARATIONS— 'POLITICAL MATURITY'

After referring to the reparations problem and paying high tributes to the parts played by Dr. Barou and by the German Chancellor, Dr. Adenauer, Dr. Goldmann said that the Agreement with Germany had become possible because the Jewish people had acted as a politically mature people and insisted upon the restoration of what belonged to it. It had been the duty of the Jewish leadership to recover whatever was possible from the Germans, and to avoid giving way to emotionalism.

With regard to Eastern Europe, Dr. Goldmann said that they had been unsuccessful in obtaining restitution because in these countries the principle of restitution and indemnification had not been recognised by the governments, not even by those which had formerly assumed this obligation in the Treaties of Peace. "We will continue to maintain our claims with regard to Eastern Euro-





W.J.C. Executives meet. (l. to r.) Dr. A. Tartakower, Israel, Dr. I. Goldstein, Western Hemisphere, Dr. N. Barou, Europe.

pean countries and will pursue these claims with vigour as soon as circumstances permit," he concluded.

**Anti-semitism:** Dr. Goldmann pointedly condemned a type of Jewish propaganda which had equated the fate of the Jews in Eastern Europe with that under the Hitler regime. What has happened to Jewish life in the Soviet sphere has nothing to do with anti-semitism in its vulgar sense, he said.

In Eastern Europe it was not the physical existence of the Jews that was threatened, but the right to maintain their specific character as a people and their particular civilisation.

We hope that Jewish communities of Eastern Europe and Russia, he continued, will again be allowed to join with us in dealing with the common problems of our day. "We remain united with them; we miss them among our councils, and we wait for their return to our fold."

## ISRAEL AND WORLD JEWRY

**Dangers in the West:** Dr. Goldmann then turned to the West. Totalitarianism was not limited to the Communist world. Intolerance and bigotry and the readiness to persecute those who do not conform constitute a permanent danger wherever they manifest themselves.

What happened recently with regard to the Genocide Convention and the Draft Covenant on Human Rights, especially the reversal in the attitude of the United States, are just causes for alarm. The

dangers to liberalism and freedom exist everywhere and will increase unless recognised and fought courageously by liberal-minded Jews and non-Jews alike.

Dr. Goldmann then came to the most important part of his address: the problem of Israel's relations with the Diaspora.

He acknowledged the great strides Israel had already made towards consolidation, security and independence.

But while the emergence of Israel as a State had made Jewish life everywhere more meaningful, it had certainly not made Jewish life easier and less complicated.

**Face the facts:** It has been an understandable but, nevertheless, dangerous illusion of the majority of the Jewish people both inside and outside Israel that the fight for a Jewish state has already been definitely won. But history is replete with examples of states which have come into being and, after a brief span of life, have disappeared.

He appealed to the Assembly once more to face facts. Whoever knows the internal situation of Israel realises that the State is far from being consolidated. Many of its vital problems—the political one, of peace with the Arab world and integration of Israel into the community of nations in the Middle East; the economic and social problems—remain to be solved. Their solution would require many years—if not decades. But without the full co-operation of the Jewish people as a whole none of these difficulties, especially the political and economic

ones, will be solved.

**Another Mass-Emigration:** Israel's relations with the Jews outside must be regularised. There was no other State in the world where nearly 90 per cent of the people live outside it. The problem could only be overcome by increasing Jewish emigration into Israel.

Although the temporary lull in mass-emigration was necessary, it would have to be resumed at the earliest possible moment.

## CALL FOR UNITY

After discussing the danger of a split between Israel and the Diaspora, Dr. Goldmann considered again the desirability of widening the basis of support for Israel beyond the organised Jewish movement. "A formula has to be found. The problem has become urgent."

It was now approaching midnight as he came to his main conclusions. More than ever, it was necessary to fight the natural tendency of taking things easy, of wishful thinking and self-indulgent optimism. The Jews had lost their great centres of learning and culture. He did not believe that these could be fully restored within the Jewish Diaspora.

Once relieved of its elementary problems of consolidation, Israel would be able to replace the sources of Jewish spiritual life which had disappeared in Europe.

**What is "Galut Nationalism"?** For a moment Dr. Goldmann addressed himself, without naming them, to the Anglo-Jewish Association and the American Jewish Committee.

"A few of the anti-Zionist groups of yesterday, who have accepted the fact of the Jewish State, are still loyal to their old position of fighting "Jewish Galut nationalism," whatever this may mean. They are in contradiction with themselves. If they are not part of the one Jewish people, why their genuine and sometimes passionate interest in Israel? Why their willingness to co-operate with other Jewish groups whenever important Jewish problems arise? Is there really any ideological difference between acting as one Jewish people in the Claims Conference in Germany, or on other occasions?" he asked.

Therefore he pleaded for a World Jewish organisation that would be as united at home as it appears to be when it meets the Germans or Austrians. He was prepared to that end to advise his colleagues to make whatever concessions are necessary in order to achieve an instrument fully representative of all Jewry.



# ISRAEL

## DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

### ESHKOL'S INTRODUCTION

"We have already passed the half-way mark towards economic independence, and the second half might be more difficult and we will have to tighten our belts to make headway," Finance Minister Levi Eshkol told the Knesset on Monday when he introduced the £145m. development budget (Israel's budget is compared with Egypt's on pp. 5 and 6). "The Government's policy is aimed at liquidating inflation and stabilising the State's economy, and we have, to a considerable degree, achieved this by ceasing new emissions (the last issue of new paper currency was in April, 1951), limiting credits, balancing the budget and inducing a dollar rate nearer to the market's reality, decreasing imports, increasing exports and stabilising prices," said in a rapid summary.

**Enter—Reparations:** For the first time, German reparations figure in the estimated budget income. They are estimated to provide £54,500,000.

A new factor which emerges from the Finance Minister's speech is his emphasis on the economic value, under present currency exchange conditions, of manual labour over mechanisation. This is clearly designed to scale down imports and guide available labour into more profitable enterprises.

### COUNTER-INDUSTRIAL TREND

The development budget also reflects the trend of national policy away from industrial expansion to increased agricultural development.

**Progress in Building:** Reviewing the country's economic development, Mr. Eshkol said former investments were now bearing fruit and "today, the tent has already disappeared from Israel's horizon" because of the vast building scheme providing homes for many established residents as well as newcomers. Building activities, however, could be curtailed in the future due to the lack of foreign currency.

**Priority for Agriculture:** On the other hand, the Government will increase its expenditure for enterprises showing immediate results, said Mr. Eshkol. Priority will be given to agriculture and irrigation. Israel's agriculture had increased more than two-fold since 1946/1947. An additional ten per cent increase was expected this year if plans already made

matured successfully.

There was almost self-sufficiency in vegetables and other agricultural products, excepting wheat. A "modest self-supply" of eggs and milk had been reached and agricultural exports, particularly citrus, had increased.

### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

**£200m. Industrial Output:** "Not less striking is our industrial development," said Mr. Eshkol. "Industrial output last year totalled £200m. This is a quarter of our national income. Two hundred and eighty-eight new enterprises were established in which £20m. and \$31m. were invested. Nevertheless, we are still in the first stages of our industrial development as far as industrial export is concerned. This amounted in 1952 to £10m.

"We have, however, advanced in the exploitation of minerals and phosphates. This will save us in the current year some \$700,000, and the utilisation of kaolin will save us \$250,000. The extent of our metal roads increased from 1,427 kilometres in 1947 to 1,861 kilometres at the end of 1952; our railway system is making steady progress; our merchant fleet has increased from 21 vessels with a general tonnage of 55,000 to 30 vessels whose tonnage totals 108,000.

"The greatest pioneering feat," he said, "had been the road to Sdom which would enable resumption of potash work. By the end of the year, this would reach the same amount as when the War of Liberation began."

### SELFISHNESS ATTACKED

Measures to abolish subsidies and allocations for the erection of hospitals, schools or any other public building from the Development Budget was strongly advocated on Tuesday in the Knesset debate on the budget by Mapai Member Akiva Govrin.

Urging that the only appropriations should be for defence and that no allocation be made to industry, Mr. Govrin severely attacked the industrialists, who did not take into consideration the needs of the State and were concerned only with their own profits.

**"Unfair to Workers":** Workers were being compelled to live on their present salaries—it was unfair that the "tighten your belts" order should apply to only one portion of the population, he declared.



Mapai's Akiva Govrin—Belt-tightening for the middle-classes?

## TERRORIST TRIAL

Yaacov Heruti, 27, charged with 13 others with belonging to a terrorist organisation, on Sunday denied that he carried out the bomb outrage against the Soviet Legation in Tel Aviv.

"It's a dirty lie and the prosecution knows it," he declared from the witness box.

Heruti, classed by the prosecution as "accused number one," was breaking the "boycott" which he and six other accused had maintained since the trial began three weeks ago. His testimony, however was not accepted in evidence, since he refused to be cross-examined.

Heruti denied all charges against him, including blowing up the Legation and possession of arms.

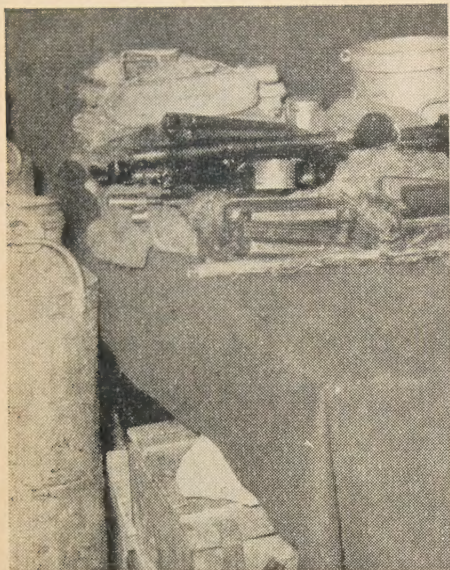
In reply to the President of the court, Colonel Binyamin Halevi, Heruti declared: "Even if I knew who blew up the Legation I would not tell."

Later he resumed his attitude of non-co-operation with the court, saying he "did not recognise its jurisdiction."

When the trial began Heruti and six other accused had demanded to be tried by the Civil Court and obstructed the proceedings. The trial proceeded in their absence until Sunday.

Four accused pleaded guilty and will be sentenced when decisions on the others are given. Three pleaded not





*Terrorist arms caché shown at trial.*

guilty but recognised the court's jurisdiction. Earlier the court ruled there was a case for all accused to answer.

**Attorney General's Reply:** When the prosecution's case was concluded on Friday, Attorney General Chaim Cohen replied to defence contentions that there was no case to answer.

Mr. Cohen maintained he had proved there was an organisation and that Heruti was one of its leaders.

He had also proved, he said, that Heruti and "accused number two," Shimon Behar, had arms and ammunition in the flat of Shmuel Draiman, a witness.

(Shimon Behar escaped from his cell a fortnight ago and is still at large.)

"I have brought enough evidence that the organisation resorted to violence," the Attorney General declared.

## BORDER

### NEW ISRAELI COMPLAINT

Two Jordan Arabs were killed near Katanah, about four miles west of Jerusalem, in an exchange of fire between an Israeli patrol and troopers of the Arab Legion, an Israeli army spokesman stated on Sunday.

The Israeli patrol encountered a group of Jordanian Arabs who had crossed the border into Israel, and when they attempted to drive off the Arabs, Jordanian troopers opened fire across the border with automatic weapons, he said.

The spokesman did not say whether the casualties had been among the civilians or the Jordanian troopers. Israel has submitted a complaint about the incident to the mixed Israel-Jordan Armistice Commission.

**Arabs Protest at Jerusalem Move:** In the meantime, diplomatic representatives from six Arab States protested on Tuesday to the State Department in Washington against the Israeli Government's transfer of its Foreign Office from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Mr. Walter Bedell Smith, the Under Secretary of State, saw envoys from Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Yemen, and Syria.

Jordan has denied a report that it joined in the protest.

Dr. Charles Malik, the Lebanese Minister, said later that Mr. Smith expressed regret, as Mr. Dulles, the Secretary of State, had already done in a press conference last week, that the move had been made.

### NEW ENVOYS APPOINTED

The new Israeli Minister in Moscow will be Dr. Shmuel Elyashiv. Dr. Elyashiv, was Israeli Minister in Russia from February 1951 until February of this year, when Russia broke off diplomatic relations with Israel after the bomb explosion at the Soviet Legation in Tel Aviv in which members of the staff were wounded.

**New Soviet Minister Named:** Mr. Alexander Nikitich Abramov has been appointed new Soviet Minister to Israel, the Tass Official News Agency reported on Tuesday.

A Mr. Alexander Nikitich Ambramov was Soviet Minister to Finland from August, 1946 to January, 1948. In October, 1949, he was appointed Soviet Ambassador to Sweden but was relieved in March, 1950, for reasons of ill-health.

## EGYPT

### "GRAFT" CHARGES AGAINST WAFD LEADERS

The Egyptian Government is claiming 22,100,000 Egyptian pounds in damages from Fuad Serag Eddin, millionaire former Wafdist Minister of the Interior and Finance Minister, and seven other people accused of "rigging" the Alexandria cotton futures market between 1950 and 1952.

The other seven accused include Madame Zeinab El Wakil, wife of the former Prime Minister and Wafdist leader Mustafa El Nahas, and two leading cotton exporters.

**Purge Commission Report:** The Government's demand for damages is the result of a report by its Purge Commission. The third graft case against leading personalities in the old regime opened last month before the Cairo

"Graft Court." Charges include corruption, misappropriation of funds, and influencing the former government.

The court's judgments are of a political and not a criminal nature, but there is no appeal against its rulings. The court was set up by Neguib's Government to judge members of the old Palace and Wafd regime against whom allegations had been made.

The other accused are Abdul Hamid Abul Wahed El Wakil, brother of Madame Nahas; Mohamed Hilmy, former government delegate to Alexandria cotton futures market; Abdul Latif Mahmud, former Wafdist cabinet minister; Mohamed Ahmed Farghaly, Aly Amin Yehia and Francois Tagher, three leading cotton exporters.

**"Rigging" Cotton Market:** Farghaly and Yehia are accused of buying all available stocks of medium stapled Ashmuni cotton during the first half of 1950 and then forcing prices up to fantastic levels with the active collaboration of the then Finance Minister and other government officials, causing the ruin of many cotton merchants and the disrepute of the Egyptian Cotton Market Board.

## GERMANY

### RESTITUTION BILL BECOMES LAW

The West German Bundersrat (upper House of Parliament) has approved a final reading of the Federal Bill granting restitution to victims of Nazism.

Under the Bill, which now becomes law, it is estimated that 4,000 million marks (about £330 million) will be paid out in restitution over ten years.

The Bill entitles anyone to claim compensation who was oppressed by the Nazis for political, racial or religious reasons between January 30, 1933, and May 8, 1945, and who thereby suffered "damage to life, body, health, freedom, prosperity, wealth, or had been harmed in his career or prospects."

**Payment for Camp Prisoners:** The Bill was approved in the last session of the Bundersrat before the General Elections in September. It is expected to affect several hundred thousand people, many of them Jews, but includes a special clause entitling to compensation the victims of the purge which followed the bomb plot on Hitler's life in July 1944.

People sent to goal or concentration camps by the Nazis will receive 150 marks (£12 10s.) for each month spent there.



# MIDDLE EAST

## TWO BUDGETS

### ISRAEL AND EGYPT COMPARED

Two weeks ago the Egyptian Finance Minister, Dr. el-Emary obtained Cabinet approval for Egypt's "Development Budget." A special allocation of £35 million, separate from the ordinary budget, will be made "to revive the economy and reduce unemployment."

The Finance Minister gave no detailed programme of either the source of the £35 million or the precise way in which it will be distributed. He said the special budget was planned as part of the unorthodox but essential long-term development and extension of industry; iron and steel; fertilizers and paper.

**Appalling Difficulties:** Dr. el-Emary drew attention once again to the appalling difficulties with which he has been faced in preparing this budget, as in all his work as Finance Minister, resulting from the excessive expenditure, the cotton market manipulation, and abuse of privileges which characterised the financial policies of his predecessors.

There were also secondary disadvantages of past policies which increased his problems now, such as the indemnification of victims of the Cairo disorders of January 26 last year, and the relief of workers forced by an Egyptian Government to leave their employment in the Canal Zone for political reasons.

**Austerity:** Partly as a result of Dr. el-Emary's own "austerity" policies—but inescapable in the economic climate beyond his control—revenue has continued to fall steeply, while expenditure has, out of necessity, increased.

Customs estimates are down £11,500,000;

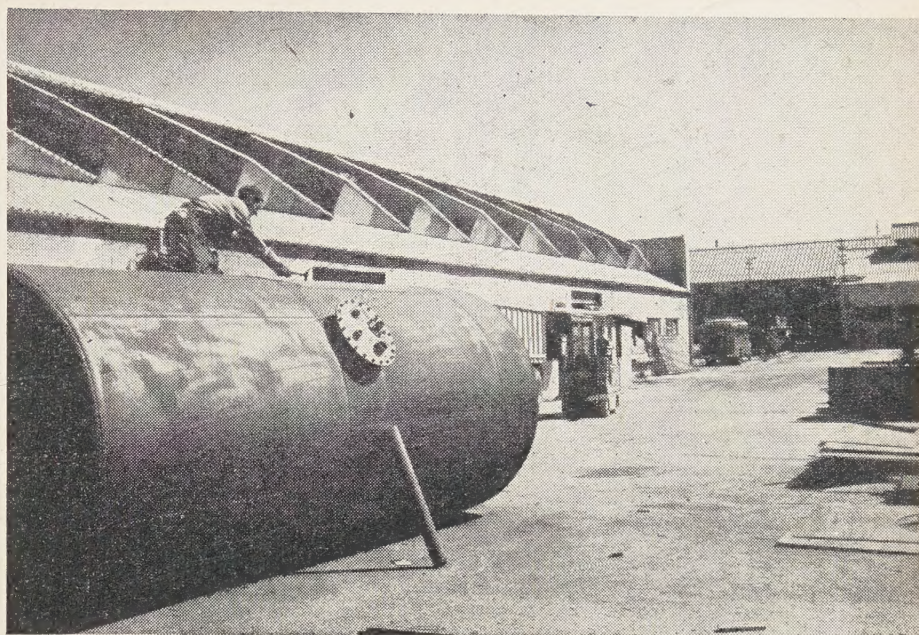
£2,000,000 which should have accrued from sale of seed must be written off because of free distribution to help cut farmers' costs;

the various considerations limiting industrial activity lost £1,000,000 which would have come from taxes on industrial profits and allied sources;

the general income tax estimate is £2,300,000 down, and so on.

The net revenue deficit of £14,700,000 reinforced unforeseen expenses of £13,300,000—nearly half the latter for former Canal Zone employees.

**Israel's ten to one ratio:** Seven days later, the Israel Finance Minister, Levy Eshkol tabled his "Development Budget"



*Expenditure on irrigation projects in the Israel Development Budget is £20 million.*

for 145 million Israel pounds in the Knesset. It will be debated this week.

In terms of goods and services the Israel budget for the current year's development for a population of under two million was just about the same as Egypt's budgeted development for a population of 20 million. Israel's population deficit *vis-a-vis* Egypt is thus largely compensated by the pace of her internal development.

**Eshkol's Budget:** The Development Budget for 1953-54 for £145 million, tabled in the Knesset, is not only £30 million more than the previous one, but it will also include an additional £30m. from last year's Development Budget, bringing the estimated total to £175 million as compared to slightly more than £100m. actually spent last year.

The £30m. from last year was not spent as planned because the funds were not received on time.

**Reparations:** Reparations and the U.S. grant-in-aid are each to provide about one-third of the income, while locally-raised funds are to bring in £40m.

**Land:** The Budget provides for the establishment of 2,541 farming units in new settlements and 1,148 in old settlements.

**Rural Housing:** More than £7m. are earmarked for housing schemes in agricultural areas, £20m. for irrigation projects (as compared to £12m. last year) the main projects being the Yarkon-

Negev pipeline, and irrigation schemes in the Northern and Lydda areas.

**Water Conservation:** Construction of water reservoirs near Ein Karem, Kfar Baruch in the Jezreel Valley, and Mishmar Ayalon, near Latrun, are to cost £4m.

**Loans to Farmers:** The subscribed capital of the National Agricultural Bank is to be increased by £2m., and £6.5m. is to be loaned to farmers to increase production.

**Meat:** The Budget provides for increasing sheep flocks by 10,000 head, and breeding 3,500 calves for meat.

**Citrus:** Planting 15,000 dunams of citrus trees as well as 5,000 dunams of carob trees are other features of agricultural development.

**Research:** Research will be financed to foster planting of castor oil trees and cotton.

**Roads:** In the Arava, £920,000 is to go for road construction, and £600,000 for pipe lines. A total of £60,000 is earmarked to develop Eilat port.

**Exports:** Aid to industry is to be given mainly as loans to existing enterprises with a view to fostering exports. Of the £6,250,000 earmarked for this item, only £750,000 is for new plants.

**Fortifications:** A new item is fortifications. A total of £2,750,000 is to be allocated to manufacturers of materials used in fortifications and £4,250,000 is to be

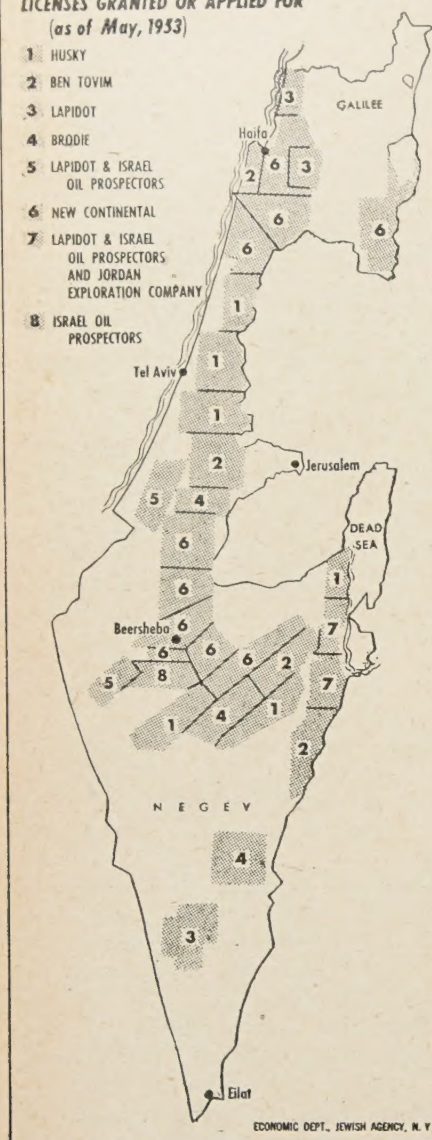
*(Continued over)*



## OIL EXPLORATION IN ISRAEL

LICENSES GRANTED OR APPLIED FOR  
(as of May, 1953)

1. HUSKY
2. BEN TOVIM
3. LAPIDOT
4. BRODIE
5. LAPIDOT & ISRAEL OIL PROSPECTORS
6. NEW CONTINENTAL
7. LAPIDOT & ISRAEL OIL PROSPECTORS AND JORDAN EXPLORATION COMPANY
8. ISRAEL OIL PROSPECTORS



More is being spent on the search for oil. This map shows areas under licence for oil exploitation.

used to aid the strengthening of the defence of various places.

**Oil and Electric:** The slight decrease noted in this year's allocation for the mining industry does not tell the whole story, since "industrial research" which received £3,550,000 last year, gets only £1.9m. this year, leaving more funds to be spent on actual mining. The Budget provides for establishing a geophysical institute for oil prospecting. The Palestine Electric Corporation is to get a £5 million loan to buy new equipment.

**Railways:** Railways are to get a third of the sum allocated for transportation (this includes £1 million for the Tel

Aviv crossing scheme) while another third is to go to develop existing ports.

**Telephones:** The Ministry of Posts is to get funds to put in telephones in 120 border settlements and to erect several new exchanges, including one on Mt. Carmel.

**Housing:** Housing is to be encouraged by granting loans to housing companies; £4.3 million is slated for the Popular Housing Scheme and £1m. for members of the Regular Forces.

**Hospitals:** New Hospitals are to receive £1.5 million, and new school buildings and institutions of higher learning, £3 million.

**Jerusalem:** The main item in the Jerusalem Development scheme is housing for Government offices—£2.1 million, of the total of £2.8 million. *Mikorot* is to get £500,000 to help the company in laying a new water pipe line to the capital.

**Unemployed Relief:** The £8 million scheduled for relief works is to be distributed according to the plan announced recently in the Knesset by the Minister

of Labour, the largest items being afforestation and work in citrus groves.

## ISRAEL "GOLD RUSH"

A large number of offers to supply Israel with goods against payment in German D-marks accruing to Israel from the West German reparations agreement have been received, it is reported from Tel Aviv. The offers are understood to include Malayan and Indonesian rubber, Brazilian coffee and cotton, Argentine wool and Scandinavian, Finnish and Yugoslav timber.

The reports said that many countries now debtors to Germany, as well as those who wanted to buy German goods in quantities far above Germany's capacity to buy their products, were trying to obtain some of the reparations marks.

The Israel authorities are believed to be carefully weighing the possibilities, since such purchases would reduce the funds available for the acquisition of goods from Germany which are necessary for Israel's industrial development.

The following are the full details of this year's and last year's Income and Expenditure:

### 1953-54 ESTIMATES OF DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

INCOME	1953-54 £	1952-53 £
Reparations Counterpart Fund	54,500,000	—
Grant-in-aid Counterpart Fund	55,000,000	30,000,000
Independence Loan	25,000,000	40,000,000
Compulsory Property Loan	12,000,000	35,000,000
Development Authority and Sale of Houses	10,000,000	10,000,000
Ordinary Budget Participation	3,000,000	—
Income Tax Advance	15,000,000	—
	145,000,000	—
Part of the Income of 1952/53 Budget made available now	30,000,000	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>175,000,000</b>	<b>115,000,000</b>
EXPENDITURE	1953-54	1952-53
Agriculture	47,050,000	36,610,000
Arava Development	2,200,000	1,700,000
Industry	11,500,000	9,800,000
Mines	9,550,000	9,950,000
Electricity	6,900,000	5,500,000
Communications	12,400,000	10,130,000
Posts	2,500,000	1,870,000
Housing	13,400,000	17,880,000
Loans to Local Governments and Public Transport	6,600,000	4,700,000
Public Utility Buildings	9,950,000	5,868,225
Jerusalem Development	2,800,000	1,800,000
Public Works	7,500,000	7,500,000
Works to Enhance Employment	8,000,000	—
Miscellaneous, incl. Tourism	1,050,000	1,450,000
General Reserve	3,000,000	241,775
	145,000,000	115,000,000



# WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

## FIVE YEARS' POLITICS

Some measure of the complexity of Jewish problems in the post-war world is gained by a survey of the activities of the World Jewish Congress, published to coincide with the opening of the Geneva Assembly this week.

It begins with the second plenary assembly of Congress at Montreux in July, 1948, two months after Jewish history had reached a turning point with the establishment of Israel, and recounts the political aftermath—the campaign for human rights, the political struggle against reviving Nazism in Germany, the negotiations for restitution and indemnification, and the complicated psychological and organisational adjustments in Jewish communal affairs that have followed the war and the emergence of Israel.

**Human Rights:** Much of the work of the World Jewish Congress has been in United Nations committees in its capacity as a consultative body. It assisted other Jewish and non-Jewish bodies in obtaining amendments to the United Nations Charter, which lifted the defence of human rights into a principal United Nations concern, and was prominent in the preparatory work for an International Bill of Rights.

At meetings of the General Assembly of the U.N. and the Economic and Social Council, Congress spokesmen have participated in all discussions affecting Jewish interests such as those dealing with refugees, statelessness, emigration and the redress of injuries inflicted by the war.

★

**Outlook "Unhopeful":** The long, often tedious and frustrating campaign for human rights reflected in the W.J.C. report illustrates more than any single factor of recent international politics the stressing human consequences of a divided world.

"As this report is being written, the outlook for the adoption of a Covenant on Human Rights, which would be signed and ratified by a majority of the powers, including the Great Powers, is as hopeful than at any time since the foundation of the United Nations," the survey states. Yet there can be little question that Jewish contribution to the campaign has been one of the most valuable activities of international bodies and the W.J.C.

Elsewhere, the W.J.C. has been suc-

cessful in aiding the United Nations in increasingly asserting its authority in human rights. It intervened at the U.N. on behalf of Jewish communities subject to discrimination in Middle Eastern countries and on behalf of Libyan Jewry when the future of the former Italian colony was discussed. Largely as a result of its efforts, the Libyan Premier announced that a section on human rights and the protection of minorities had been written into the Libyan constitution.

**International Law:** It is generally in the field of international law that non-Governmental bodies such as the W.J.C. have made their important contribution, the most notable single instance being the adoption by the U.N. of the Convention on Genocide.

"The value of international instruments and conventions depends in the last resort on their ratification by Governments," the survey says, pointing out that because of its affiliated bodies in many countries the W.J.C. has been in a position of exceptional advantage in helping to secure adhesion by their Governments to U.N. conventions.

**Germany and the liberal Conscience:** The unremitting vigilance against the revival of Nazi influence is shown in the narrative on Germany, but here too the political tide has often defeated liberal conscience. German rearmament became an accepted fact, the tarnished military reputations of German generals have been refurbished, many war criminals were released. The W.J.C. was among the most articulate of those voices warning against a German revival that was not attended by Allied and international safeguards.

Even during the war years, Congress experts were engaged in

investigating the legal grounds under which Germany's political and moral responsibility to make restitution to the victims of the Nazis could be put into effect.

At a meeting in November, 1944, at Atlantic City, Congress already defined the principles on reparations and other material Jewish claims against Germany. These and other post-war efforts helped considerably when the question of German reparations was opened between Jewish authorities and Chancellor Adenauer. Members of the W.J.C. were also prominent in the actual negotiations.

★

**Defeating Prejudice:** Less momentous, but not without considerable importance, were the W.J.C.'s activities in helping to salvage Jewish assets in Austria and other European countries; its interventions on behalf of Jewish communities in the Arab countries; its defence of Jewish interests in Latin America. It has also done much in co-operation with Unesco to protect cultural rights by suggestions concerning non-discrimination in education, the improvement of text-books, and in providing research on the problems of race and advising on adult education.

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# COMMENT

## JEWISH DIPLOMACY

The World Jewish Congress has now behind it a substantial record of achievement—not least, the German Reparations on which it took the initiative. It has done more for the cause of Jewish representation than most of the older established bodies. It can thus afford to practise healthy self-criticism at the Geneva World Assembly, which opened with solemn ceremonial on Tuesday evening.

The Acting President, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, is to be congratulated on the frank acknowledgement of the problem with which he has prefaced the "Survey of Policy and Action" which the Congress Executive has submitted to the Assembly.

The Reparations negotiations with Germany demonstrated the importance of having an accepted and representative body capable of speaking for World Jewry; they also revealed the wide gap between the existing reality and the ideal of organised "Jewish Unity." The World Jewish Congress, in Dr. Goldmann's view, is itself "an answer" to that challenge of unified representation; but, he hastens to add the warning words—that epitaph of so many well-intentioned endeavours: "the answer is not complete."

Dr. Goldmann is confident that the Congress Assembly will be prepared to make any reasonable concession in the interests of Jewish unity to meet the legitimate needs or hopes of other groups. That is an encouraging recognition of one of the primary needs of a world organisation such as the Congress: as such, it must not only be, in fact, representative of World Jewry, but it must also be accepted as such by the existing genuinely representative constituents of World Jewry—particularly in the United Kingdom, and in the United States.



The Report draws attention to the function of the Jewish State in this world-wide mobilisation of Jewish opinion. It is wrong, it says, to hold that the government of Israel can be the natural protector and obvious political protagonist of Jewish rights, liberties and interests wherever and whenever these might be assailed. The customs of international conduct between sovereign states make this impossible. It is necessary, indeed of advantage, so the Report argues, to maintain a political distinction between Israel and the rest of Jewry. Hence, the need for the World Jewish Congress as the democratic Parliament and at the same time, the Diplomatic Service, of the Jews outside Israel.

What are the main obstacles that stand in the

way of Congress becoming the accepted spokesman of the majority of world Jewry? They fall into two categories: organisational and political. Powerful organisations and groups of American, French, and British Jews remain outside the World Jewish Congress and unsympathetic to its declared objectives.

Some of these objectors will never be converted and will always remain outside. They have either a vested interest in an existing sectarian organisation, or they reject completely the existence of a Jewish community of interest on a world-wide scale. Nothing can be done about them; they will always be with us if not for us.

But others hesitate on the brink. Their hesitation has its source in some of the activities of Congress representatives which are recorded in this "Survey" presented to the Assembly.

These tend to assume the characteristics of "permanent protestants": protests about Germany, protests about Austria, about Egypt and Iraq, protests in the U.N. about Human Rights, protests about Communist "anti-Semitism"—man cannot live by protest alone.



This is a familiar Jewish failing stemming from the minority complex of past days. But it can now be dispensed with by an organisation that represents World Jewry.

This is a factual not a principled failing; if it is recognised, it can be overcome. The Geneva Assembly can play its part if it focusses attention on this need for an absolute sense of reliability, responsibility and moderation by all who act in its name.

The Assembly can go further. It can draw the valuable lesson from the German negotiations. Here was an immediate political need, and it produced the necessary unity of action—but only after a delay of months which actually jeopardised final success.

The test of the German discussions was the agreed political programme. The Geneva Assembly is perhaps not the most suitable body to work out a more specific political programme, but it can discuss it in broad outline. It could leave the details to a Commission on which Israel should be at least as prominently represented as the United States.

The emphasis of such a programme would be on the positive rather than on protest and agitation. It could concern itself, to begin with, with the three outstanding Jewish political problems of today:

1. a settlement in the Middle East;
2. the relations of World Jewry to the Jews of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union;
3. the problem of isolated Jewish communities in Africa and Asia.



# IN THE NEWS



"Against the Executive"

## CHURCHILL'S ADVICE

*The time:* Shortly before Sir Winston's illness; late in the evening.

*The scene:* the Smoking Room in the House of Commons.

*The actors:* Aneurin Bevan, Jennie Lee, Harold MacMillan and some friends; they are joined by the Prime Minister.

The conversations ranged over many topics—the Slansky trial and that of Cardinal Wolsey; cruelties in English history—before Churchill turned to Bevan with the comment that he favoured extending question time by half an hour. His reason was characteristic.

He turned to Bevan and explained: he was against giving the Executive too much power—"so are you, Aneurin." He wanted the strict rules regarding questions relaxed and to have the "dirt" in the question without the need for endless supplementaries during question time. Sir Winston thought this was the only way the bureaucracy could be kept on its toes and in its place.

## KNESSET COMPARISON

This strange encounter made me think of the Knesset procedure at question time. There, the scales are weighed heavily in favour of the Executive. The whole procedure tends in that direction.

The Ministers sit apart from the members at a table in the centre, rather like the Clerks in the House of Commons, or

the stenographers at U.N. meetings. The questions are numbered as in the Commons, but much longer.

The Minister replies from a rostrum, and the replies, like the questions tend to be more general, longer and less specific. There is a lot to be said for introducing more cut and thrust by making question time in the new Knesset chamber less formal and abolishing the rostrum which isolates the answering Minister.

## HUNDREDTH WEEKLY

The distinction of being Israel's hundredth weekly falls to the eight-page German-language *Atid*. The three copies that I have seen so far combine political news with reportage and cultural articles.

A woman's page discusses such items as Franco's campaign against "unsuitable" beach wear, the career of Mrs. Oveta Hobby (Eisenhower's Director of the Federal Security Agency) and how to keep children occupied during the summer holidays.

*Atid* is evidently non-party and independent. It seems to reflect General Zionist opinions, though not uncritically. For example, an article attacks Israeli industry for not being able to forget "the golden age" of 1939/51 and not showing enough adaptability to new conditions. In general the presentation is far more adult than that of most German language papers in Israel some of which have managed to lower their standards of journalism to an exceptional degree.

## RUSSIANS AND GERMANS

Can the West and Russia agree on the neutralisation of Germany? This was the framework inside which Lionel Kochan discussed *Russia and the Weimar Republic* at last week's meeting of the London Jewish Graduates' Association. The first landmark he picked out was the Treaty of Rapallo (1922) whereby, said Kochan, Russia was obliged to support the German struggle against Versailles. In return, Germany undertook to remain "the missing link" in any projected bloc of capitalist powers.

This dual attitude worked itself out during the twenties and early thirties. It was Hitler and not Stalin who broke up the arrangement. The decisive factor was the German-Polish Declaration of Non-Aggression of January 1934—from this flowed all Russia's later isolation. Kochan's talk was based on his forthcoming book—*Russia and the Weimar Republic*.

*Hamazkir writes:*

## THE FATE OF SALONIKA

When I read recently of the ceremony in Salonika at which the foundation-stone was laid of the Israeli Pavilion for the forthcoming International Fair, I felt moved as I recalled the glorious past of the Jewish community of that city, which has been reduced to little more than an abode of desolation. Before the First World War it had 80,000 Jews, and even when I visited it on a few occasions between the First and the Second War there were still about 70,000. Now, mainly as a result of Nazi deportation and extermination, and, to a minor extent, of emigration, the total number hardly exceeds 1,200. For over four hundred years, the Salonika community, which first began to occupy a position of importance after the influx of refugees from the Spain of Ferdinand and Isabella, flourished both materially and spiritually to such a degree that in some of its prayer-books the prophet's words had been boldly altered to: "For from Salonika shall go forth the Torah."

The community was terribly impoverished by the great fire of 1917, which destroyed thirty synagogues and rendered 50,000 Jews homeless. Yet, when I was there for the first time about eight years later, I found that what the Jews deplored most was the loss of their religious and cultural treasures—scrolls of the Law, entire libraries, mediaeval manuscripts, synagogue ornaments in gold and silver, and wondrous vestments of embroidered silk in richest hue, that had been brought by the Maranos and by fugitives from Germany.

## LIFE OF JABOTINSKY

I am glad to hear that steps are being taken for the publication of a biography of Vladimir Jabotinsky, for, whatever view one may hold of the part played in the Zionist movement by that "stormy petrel," everyone must agree that his somewhat spectacular career deserves recording. I first saw him at the Zionist Congress of 1903, when he was only twenty-three. He spoke in Russian, the only language with which he was at that time familiar, and the Stenographic Report of the Congress, which does not

(Continued on page 11)





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(Continued from page 9)

record what he said, mentions that he had to be repeatedly told by the chairman that his time was up.

I first met Jabotinsky when he came to London in 1917 to raise a Jewish legion. By that time he had acquired a knowledge of other languages, and I was impressed by the accuracy and fluency of his English when he addressed a meeting of the Council of the English Zionist Federation. Owing to his action in organising a Jewish self-defence corps in Palestine in 1920 he was sentenced to imprisonment in the Acre Gaol. I was allowed to visit him there and found him quite confident that he would not have to wait long before he was set free. Jabotinsky was a writer with a remarkable gift for lucid and cogent expression, and I have always regretted that he spent so many years of his life on political agitation, which he could have devoted far more fruitfully to literary activity.

### LUXEMBOURG SYNAGOGUE

I was rather interested in the news that the consecration has just taken place of a new synagogue in Luxembourg, as I once visited the old one. The new place of worship has been built at the expense of the Government, and among those present at the dedication were Prince Jean and the Mayor of Luxembourg. I visited the former synagogue, which was destroyed by the Nazis, over fifty years ago, when there was a flourishing Jewish community of over 1,200. The number subsequently rose to over 4,000, of whom the great majority, shortly after the outbreak of the late war, were transported to Portugal, from where they emigrated overseas. Now the entire community does not number even one thousand.

### GLICENSTEIN MUSEUM

The opening of the Glicenstein Museum at Safed should help to confirm the reputation of that city as a citadel of art, for there are few sculptors in the annals of Jewish artists to compare with him in brilliance of execution and width of range. The Museum, which is housed in a three-storey building near a fine public park, contains about a hundred works of art by Glicenstein, most of them sculptures and paintings, presented by the artist's family, and also about twenty works by Mane Katz.

I first met Glicenstein at one of the Zionist Congresses before the First War,



*"Biblical Landscape," by Leo Kahn is characteristic of the search for a native idiom among Israel's artists, many of whom live in the "little Paris" of Safed.*

and frequently came across him—particularly at a Kosher restaurant—when I lived in Berlin. He told me that he had started life as a student in a Polish *Yeshivah*, but by the age of seventeen he already gave striking evidence of artistic ability and was sent in 1890 (when he was twenty) by a patron to Munich to study art. Within a few years he won two prizes at the Munich Academy, and in 1895 his "Arion" secured him the Rome prize of the Berlin Academy. He spent many years in the Italian capital and became generally known there as "Enrico" Glicenstein. It was during that period that he made a bust of the statesman Luigi Luzzatti besides numerous other works. After the First World War Glicenstein came to London for a time and did a bust of Balfour, and then went to the United States. Exhibitions of his art have been held at various times in Berlin, Munich, Venice, and other cities in Europe, and later in America. It is fitting that his works have now found a permanent home in Israel.

### A PROLIFIC FAMILY

When the name of Feuchtwanger first became famous through the brilliant novels of Lion Feuchtwanger, it seemed to people in the Western world somewhat strange and unusual. It is, therefore, interesting and even surprising to

learn that the founder of the family, Seligmann Feuchtwanger, actually had 950 descendants. Their names, as well as those of 450 spouses, and their genealogical relations, together with records of the careers of the more notable members, are given in an attractive volume that has just appeared in Tel Aviv under the title of "The Feuchtwanger Family."

The founder of this prolific family was born in Fürth in 1786 and he had no fewer than 18 children and 93 grandchildren. He owed his name to the fact that his ancestors originated from a place called Feuchtwanger in Franconia. Many members of the first generation settled in Munich and Frankfurt, and the material advancement which they and most of their offspring achieved is reflected in the fact that as many as 40 per cent were members of intellectual professions. Most of them remained loyal to Judaism, and after the Nazi revolution in 1933 half of the Feuchtwangers who emigrated went to Palestine; but unfortunately, of those who were unable to get away as many as eighty were murdered by Hitler's miscreants. Among the representatives of the family in England is the Communal Rabbi of Manchester, Rabbi Dr. A. Altmann. The Tel Aviv publication is a valuable contribution to the history and sociology of a section of German Jewry.



# SENATE REPORT ON ARAB REFUGEES

## FULL TEXT OF THE REPORT OF THE NEAR EAST SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

*On July 24, the Special Committee of the Senate which has been studying "the Palestine Refugee Problem" issued its Report and Recommendations, after hearing the views of leading State Department officials and experts on Arab Refugee relief.*

*The Report, the first policy recommendation of its kind issued under the Eisenhower administration, is significant. It shows how little the new party in power in Washington has so far departed, in practice from the policy of the Truman Administration. The full verbatim text of its Report to the Senate follows:—*

### I. INTRODUCTION

The Foreign Relations Sub-committee on the Near East and Africa, joined by Senator Langer of North Dakota, has conducted hearings on the problem of Arab refugees from Palestine. These refugees are now residing in camps and other places in the Near East where they have been supported by funds provided by members of the United Nations who have made voluntary contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, supplemented by private relief organizations. The sub-committee has given careful consideration to the problem.

The study was undertaken for several reasons:

1. The United States has been deeply concerned at the pitiful plight of these refugees and has made frequent and heavy financial contributions for relief and rehabilitation purposes during the past four years.

2. Each time the Foreign Relations Committee has considered the Palestine refugee matter since 1949, the committee has been encouraged to believe that substantial progress in the settlement of the matter was soon to be made but year after year the matter has come up again with little change, except for increased requests for funds. (See committee print Background Information for Study of Palestine Refugee Programme, May 19, 1953, pp. 12 and 13.)

This year the executive branch has requested \$30 million more to make an

additional contribution to the United Nations programme for these refugees for the forthcoming year.

3. The situation in the Near East has deteriorated and the continued failure to solve the refugee problem has contributed to that deterioration. The plight of these refugees has been used to build up the hostility between Israel and the Arab States, and it seems almost impossible to bring about a permanent peace, unless this problem can be solved.



*One refugee child; there are 200,000 more.*

The sub-committee has been under no illusion that it could solve this complicated problem. The United States does not have the responsibility as a nation to bring about a solution. The responsibility is on the Arab States themselves and Israel and the United Nations. But at least we can join in pointing out the necessity for prompt and more effective action.

### II. THE HEARINGS

The sub-committee met once in executive session with the Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East and Africa, Mr. Byroade, and several of his associates, to discuss the situation of the Arab refugees from Palestine, prior to his recent trip with the Secretary of State to the Near and Middle East. Individual

members of the sub-committee also discussed the matter on several occasions with the Secretary of State.

The sub-committee was impressed with the information received during the hearings. With one or two exceptions, witnesses discussed the issues with restraint and candour and offered many helpful suggestions as to ways in which the United States might contribute to the solution of this problem.

The printed hearings and a staff memorandum providing background information for the sub-committee give details as to the development of the problem and of the various steps that have been taken by the United Nations to deal with it. Since these documents are available for the use of the Senate, it has not been considered necessary to repeat the background materials in this respect.

### III. THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM

There appear to be some 860,000 Palestinian-Arab refugees who fled from Palestine during hostilities in 1948. They are camped at various points, not far from Israel, from Syria in the north to Egypt in the south. The camps are, in general, tent encampments, and increasingly inadequate.

The condition of the refugees themselves, particularly the children, is pitiful in spite of the relief furnished through the United Nations. The sub-committee was extremely disappointed to find that after nearly five years of effort and expenditure of over a hundred million dollars by the United Nations, virtually no progress has been made in developing projects for resettlement, or reaching political agreements relating to resettlement and rehabilitation.

It was suggested to the sub-committee that some part of these refugees be reabsorbed into Israel, that other refugees be resettled on new irrigation projects, and that others be furnished land by various Arab States, where they might settle. Few people have seriously suggested that the problem could be resolved by any general emigration of these refugees to other parts of the world.



The sub-committee does not feel that it should enter into the disputes as to the blame for the present situation, nor does it feel that it can pass on the feasibility of resettlement within Israel, except to say that such a solution cannot handle more than a small proportion of the total number.

Israel points out that it has had to absorb many Jews driven out of Arab states and many others who have emigrated from Europe. Nevertheless, the sub-committee feels that Israel has a responsibility to join in doing its best to find a solution for the present problem which keeps alive a strong anti-Israel feeling where it might not exist otherwise.

The sub-committee feels that a large number of the refugees, although certainly much less than half, could be taken care of by irrigation projects in the Jordan Valley. Apparently, these projects could obtain increased areas of arable land and measurably reduce the burden of relief. The sub-committee does not feel that the United Nations has made the progress in this field that it should have made.

The United States is prepared to furnish its share of the technical services and funds, but essential to the success of the project is effective action by the United Nations to secure an understanding on the disputed issues of water rights, and adequate measures to assure the appropriate control of these waters so that countries concerned could depend on their continued flow. Territorial adjustments to provide the basis for joint control should be considered.

The sub-committee makes clear, however, that even if this water-resource development is efficiently carried out, it will only take care of less than half the present refugee population, and no specific project has been worked out to take care of those now camped on the shores of the Mediterranean.

The sub-committee feels that, apart from any action taken by Israel, the Arab States should develop definite proposals for refugee self-employment and rehabilitation outside of Israel. It realises that the absorption of refugees by the Arab States involves such matters as compensation for their property left in Israel, and other problems of competition with those already settled in the fertile agricultural areas of the Arab states.

Nevertheless, the sub-committee does not believe that the Arab nations can escape responsibility to their fellow



*Refugee Housing: two families, one tent.*

Arabs by failing to co-operate fully with the United Nations in projects designed to resettle refugees and to make land available for refugee settlement.

Certainly these nations should back to the limit proposals to increase the amount of irrigation in the Jordan Valley and to support other proposals for land development.

#### IV. THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES

The United States has an interest in doing what it can to help solve the refugee problem because of its direct relationship to the economic and political stability and the security of the Near East. The United States does not wish to see the internal order and the independence of the countries of the Near East threatened by economic chaos.

Communist penetration, or military hostilities. Disorder with a resultant possibility of the renewal of hostilities in this part of the world would threaten the security interest of the United States and the free world generally.

The United States has a significant financial interest in the early settlement of the problem of the refugees. Since 1949 the United States Congress has authorised the appropriation of over \$153,000,000 as the United States contri-

bution to the relief and rehabilitation of the refugees. In addition, in recent years the United States has made other economic contributions directly to the states of the Near East.

The amounts authorised for our contribution to the United Nations fund has gradually increased from year to year, except for fiscal 1954. The pending Mutual Security Act of 1953 continues available funds heretofore appropriated and also authorises the appropriation of an additional \$30,000,000 for 1954.

American aid cannot continue indefinitely. In fact the sub-committee is of the opinion that unless considerably more progress is shown in the near future than has been shown up to this time, the Congress would not be justified in continuing aid for this programme through the United Nations.

The American people are moved by strong humanitarian motives, but they cannot be expected to bear indefinitely so large a share of the burden involved in this situation when Israel and the Arab States show so little initiative in helping to settle the matter among themselves. There is a very real danger that the longer the United States continues to supply relief money, the less desire there will be on the part of the states in this area to make real efforts on their own to liquidate the problem.



## HAS THE KIBBUTZ A FUTURE?

By YAAKOV MORRIS\*

Before Statehood, Israel's population took its collective settlements for granted. Whether or not the average city dweller wanted to live in one, the kibbutz was praised or at least accepted by all. No one questioned its idealism. No one doubted its vital role in defence or colonisation. Its schools were held up as models of progressive education. Opinion may have been divided along class lines about its socialism; but rarely was its national role subject to challenge. In fact the kibbutz was as much accepted as a part of Israel's landscape as were the snow-capped peaks of Mount Hermon or the swamps of the Huleh Basin.

Today, however, heated discussion prevails amongst Israel's press and public, and amongst economists and sociologists, as to whether the kibbutz has a future. A visitor, who had last been in the country five years ago, today would be forced to ask himself: "What has changed—the kibbutz, the rest of the country, or both?" Nor has the discussion been confined solely to Israel.

**Effect of Population Changes:** It would be an understatement to say that Israel's population has changed. Not only are the present majority of its inhabitants new immigrants from North Africa, the Middle East and from Europe's D.P. camps. The old population of Mandatory times is barely recognisable. Common to both elements is a marked decline or absence of pioneer idealism.

The original *Yishuv*, following the long struggle for Statehood, the War of Independence, the first impact of mass immigrant absorption, etc., is noticeably tired. It is fully occupied today with its struggle for existence, the sharp rise in prices and the equally sharp decline in living standards.

The new immigrant *Yishuv*, either in its *ma'abarot* or crowded in cities, came with no prior Zionist training and few social ideals. Its main preoccupation is to find permanent accommodation, steady work and adjustment to a society often centuries ahead of its countries of origin. In a *ma'abara* such as Talpote in Jerusalem, for example, where many are unemployed and ill-housed, few of the immigrants are willing to exchange their present hardships for immediate work and housing in a rural environment.

**Kibbutzim Without Reserves:** In the

past few years scarcely a handful of new kibbutzim have been established. In fact, in the year 1951/52 only one new collective settlement was added to the kibbutz chain. Yet thousands of new immigrants had come into the country, and thousands more were awaiting permanent settlement in transit camps and temporary villages. Although the majority of the newcomers fought shy of agriculture in itself, this is not the entire explanation. Those who did not, favoured other forms of village such as the moshav (co-operative smallholders' settlement) or Kfar Avoda (work village based upon hired labour at public works).



*English Kibbutz Kfar Hanassi—on the Syrian Border.*

Because it made little headway among the new immigrants, the kibbutz movements had few or no pioneer reserves to fall back on. The immigrant movement had been wiped out by Hitler, either in gas chambers or in the battles of Warsaw, Vilna and Bialystok. The few who survived the war were mainly absorbed by established kibbutzim as reinforcements.

The pioneer movement which exists today sends a few hundred pioneers per year to Israel, instead of the thousands which once came from Poland and Eastern Europe. And in Israel itself, there has been a marked waning of enthusiasm amongst Sabra youth for life in the collective settlements. Instead, Statehood has supplanted this once flourishing idealism with rewarding careers in its civil service, armed forces and swollen bureaucracy.

**Kibbutz Position Weakened:** In spite of the fact, therefore, that its population increased to almost 70,000, the kibbutz movement failed to keep pace with the rest of the country. In relative terms its percentage of the overall population declined. And apart from the loss of numerical strength its position in the country had weakened.

The State itself took over the main responsibility for defence and agricultural development. Economically, food and industrial production had to be increased at a tempo far beyond the capacity of the existing settlement sector.

New forms of settlement were sponsored. Socially, the kibbutz moved backwards from its position as a vanguard society, in a national and social sense, to that of becoming but one factor in the

rapidly changing complex of Israel's life. New problems and, therefore, new thinking had overtaken the country.

**Political Role Transformed:** Politically, the role of the kibbutz movement was also transformed. Before Statehood, the labour movement led the nation in the struggle against the British Administration, and in the fight for immigration, colonisation and defence. The kibbutz sector led the labour movement in this entire struggle. It fought the "White Paper" by establishing new settlements in strategic areas. It organised "illegal" immigration, it absorbed the newcomers and thus created the very facts upon which Zionist politics were based.

**Political Influence Limited:** After the United Nations decision, new political action became necessary. The State apparatus inevitably took over both this and the new tasks of a sovereign nation

\*The author is an authority on Kibbutz life and has written a book "Pioneers from the West," dealing with the special problems of Western immigrants.



world affairs. The transfer to the State of foreign affairs and other major activities ended the domination of the Labour movement in these fields. This, in turn, restricted the political activities and influence of the kibbutz movement.

At the same time changes took place in the internal political life of the Yishuv. Before 1948, the right wing political parties of the country were a negligible factor—although they were strongest in the World Zionist Organisation. Since then the General Zionists have steadily grown in strength, and today they represent a serious challenge to Mapai.

This not only reflected a local change of forces, but was undoubtedly affected by increasing dependence on American aid, via not only the voluntary donations of American Jewry but also American government aid through various agencies.

### Effect on Internal Life of Kibbutz:

This change in political atmosphere dealt the kibbutz movement a heavy blow. With two-thirds of its membership following a Mapam line, the movement became more and more isolated from prevailing political trends. All these factors not only radically altered the relationship of the kibbutz movement to the rest of the population. The weakening of its economic, social and political status in the country soon had its repercussions upon the internal life of the settlements.

But these outside influences and pressures were only part of the difficulties which the movement faced. Internal changes which had taken place since the Second World War raised graver problems of more far reaching significance.

*(These changes will be discussed in a further article).*

## COMPENSATING NAZI VICTIMS

### CURRENCY CONTROL TO BE RELAXED

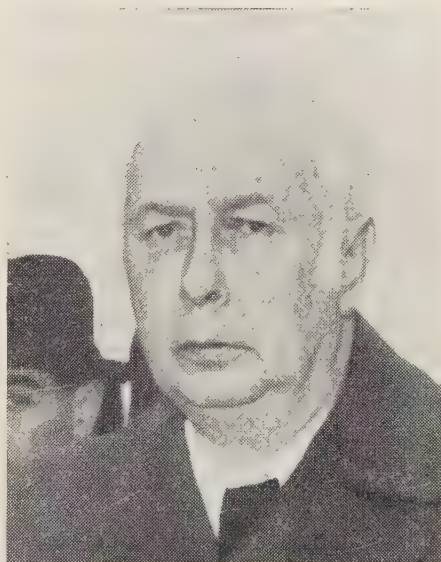
Thousands of victims of Nazi oppression who are unable to benefit fully from West German restitution and compensation laws because they live abroad, may soon get their first material return for suffering and loss, reports Harry Levy, Reuters Correspondent in Bonn.

Negotiations are now under way for an early relaxation of currency control laws which, until now, have prevented claimants abroad from transferring restitution and compensation payments to the countries where they are now living.

For many thousands of those people whom Hitler drove from their homes at mature age and who have since grown old in exile, the negotiations are the first sign of an assured future.

**Little Help from Blocked Accounts:** The restitution and compensation laws were of little help to them, even if their claims were recognised and big sums paid into accounts here in their name, for these accounts were blocked. As a rule they could only be used by the claimants themselves in Germany. Sick-ness, old age or lack of means prevented many from making the trip back. To others, who could not forget the hatred which they experienced in Germany, a return to collect compensation would be a greater ordeal than continued poverty abroad.

It has been possible in recent years to sell blocked marks on the international market, but at a heavy loss, at times up to 60 per cent.



*West German President Theodor Heuss.*

**Official Relaxations:** There have also been certain official relaxation in the strict prohibition of direct transfer of blocked marks abroad. They were:

¶ A general licence to transfer annuities or pensions to former German civil servants of up to 800 marks (about £68 sterling) monthly for claiming living in member countries of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (O.E.E.C.) including the sterling area, and up to 300 marks (about £25 sterling) to the dollar area, including Israel.

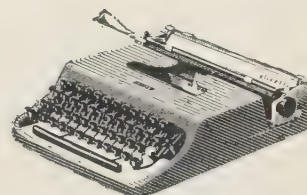
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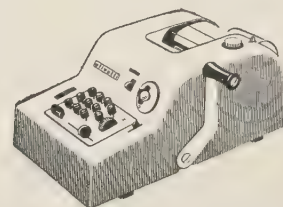
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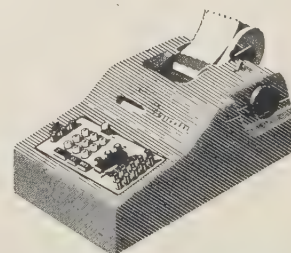
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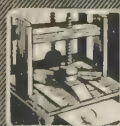
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¶ A general licence to transfer pensions to former Jewish community officials.

¶ An agreement for the direct transfer of compensatory payments to people suffering from the effects of forcible medical experiments by the Nazis.

¶ Special individual licences for the transfer of up to 300 marks (about £25 sterling) monthly to people able to prove that they are desperately poor.

¶ A general licence to holders of restitution or compensation blocked accounts to buy up to 5,000 marks (about £425 sterling) worth of household good and export them to their new country of residence.

These relaxations, it is openly admitted here, covered only a fraction of the people and only a fraction of the restitution sums already lying in blocked accounts.

They ignore in particular the needs of all those who have received compensation for illegal internment in concentration camps, for being ill-treated, deprived of their livelihood and robbed of their possessions.

**Who is Desperately Poor?** The state central banks which are authorised to approve special licences up to 300 marks monthly vary greatly in their judgment of who is desperately poor.

For needy people in some countries, Brazil or the United States, for instance, 300 marks monthly is only a minute payment.

But authoritative British, United States, Jewish and West German officials have given an assurance that this apparent defeat by currency control laws of the West German Government's declared intention to make good the wrongs done by the Nazis is not a sign of ill-will on anyone's part.

Their story is that the general prohibition of the transfer of German marks abroad dates back to allied military government laws of 1945, when Germany was in a state of collapse and the allies were pouring money into the country.

**Control on Foreign Purchases:** It would have been self-defeating for the allies to allow that help to drain out of the backdoor to restitution claimants abroad. They controlled the flow of German money for essential foreign purchases by a strict system of licences.

When, in about 1949, West Germany's economic situation began to improve by leaps and bounds, the licencing system

was gradually extended and gradually handed over to German control.

The situation now is that the West German government and its bank control Germany's foreign exchange almost completely. What few concessions have been made in the past two years to Nazi victims were made by the Germans.

**Total Sum Now Calculable:** Now that the London debts agreement has been signed and is about to come into effect the situation has radically changed. West Germany knows exactly what she must pay her creditors abroad. She can thus start to calculate how much foreign currency she can reasonably afford to put aside for restitution payments.

These calculations are well under way, said a West German Economics Ministry official. A Jewish official has confirmed that the first new licences easing the ban on transfers could be expected soon.

West Germany which has a surplus of about £200 million in the E.P.U. and is saving at the rate of about £13 million a month, could well afford substantial payments to Nazi victims living in O.E.E.C. countries, he added.

West German trade with the dollar area has just about balanced. But even there the figures showed a comfortable margin to repay the Nazis' moral debt.

The Jewish official said that the West Germans were considering setting aside between 150 million and 250 million marks (£12,750,000 to £21,250,000 sterling) annually for direct transfer of restitution and compensation payments.

This should cover all annuity and pension payments to victims of Nazi terror, not simply the two classes of annuity at present covered by general licences.

How much would be left over for other kinds of payment, compensation for material losses, loss of livelihood "Jew" taxes and the like, would depend on how big claims from abroad might be.

**Total Cost—£340 Million:** West Germany in her most recent, all-embracing restitution and compensation law estimated the total cost at 4,000 million marks (£340 million sterling) spread over 10 years, or 400,000 million marks (about £34 million sterling) annually.

If half of this were made transferable, it is likely that the neediest emigrants at least would get some benefit for the first time.

Jewish and allied officials in Bonn are genuinely convinced that the present West German government is determined to go as far as it safely can to help them



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ARAB REFUGEES

Sir,—In the broadcast address after his recent trip to the Middle East, Mr. John Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State, said, "Now closely huddled around Israel are most of the over 800,000 Arab refugees who fled from Palestine as the Israelis took over." It is always a figure of not less than 800,000 that is used; and by repetition it has become a recognisably good trick with which to beat Israel and the Zionist cause.

The facts are not as simple as pro-Arab publicists make them appear and the figure one that should be boldly challenged.

When the British gave up the Mandate in April, 1948, there were over 600,000 Jews and about 1,100,000 Arabs in Palestine. There are, and there have been since the fighting ended, more than 150,000 Arabs within the frontiers of Israel.

The proposals before the United Nations for the partition of Palestine were based on the establishment of a State of Israel for the areas which were predominantly Jewish.

In the event, the predominantly Arab areas were taken over by the extension of the authority of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom and by the occupation of the Gaza strip by Egypt. In large parts of these areas there was no fighting, and the Arab population stayed in their homes, carrying on their simple lives, little affected by the war.

The question at issue is the number of Arabs who fled from the area now within the frontiers of Israel. It must exclude those who lived in the Palestine areas taken over by Jordan and Egypt. It must be limited to those who were formerly settled in the towns and villages of the new State. It is doubtful whether the number is as big as that of the Jewish population when the State was established.

If a statistical analysis of the known facts could be made and a statement issued, preferably from an authoritative source in Israel, it would serve a very useful purpose. On the face of it, the figures generally quoted are manifestly exaggerated.

A. Nathan.

Winchley Lane,  
London, N.W.4

### ADVISING IMMIGRANTS

Sir,—With reference to a report published in your issue of July 24th, the statement made by Mr. S. Temkin, Director of the Israel Office of the English Zionist Federation to a meeting of the Jerusalem branch of the Association of Immigrants from Great Britain to the effect that "there were hundreds of non-technical applicants wishing to migrate to Israel but no machinery existed to give the practical advice necessary," may say as Secretary of the Aliyah Office for Great Britain and Ireland that this statement is no doubt based on a misunderstanding.

All the necessary information is available at this office. Furthermore, I would add that it is the specific task of this office to advise and guide prospective immigrants. As every case is treated individually, according to the circumstances of the person or family concerned, it may on occasions be necessary to refer particular cases to the Jewish Agency in Israel.

(Miss) R. Woislowski.

Immigration Department,  
Jewish Agency,  
77 Gt. Russell St., W.C.1.

### ESPERANTO A CURE FOR BABEL?

Sir,—Many of your readers will be interested in the article by Dr. Barou about the threat of Babel to Jewish cultural survival. Even in the good old days, when half the Jewish population of the world spoke Yiddish, which, by the way, induced most of the Hebrew-writing *Maskilim* to go over to writing in Yiddish, the problem of Babel was hardly solved, because of the other half that spoke many other languages.

Now, as Dr. Barou rightly points out, this problem is becoming more acute and demands a remedy. But what is the remedy? Hebrew? By all means. Let those who wish to learn it, be encouraged to do so for many well-known reasons; but will this eventually solve the Babel problem? Dr. Barou says "the Jews badly need some kind of a Jewish Esperanto." But why "some kind"? There is a Jewish Esperanto in existence. It was created by Dr. L. L. Zamenhof, one of our own people, whose first thought on its inception was, that it shall become *Lingua Franca* for the Jewish people, who are scattered all over the world and speak many languages (See Dr. Privat's *Life of Zamenhof*).

Only later was it taken up by many of his Jewish and non-Jewish friends with a wider horizon. Thus we see it today as the truly universal language it was meant to be with many thousands of adherents in every part of the world, including large numbers of Jews.

The Bible and many treasures of Jewish Literature, such as Bialik's poems for instance, can now be read in Esperanto. Of course those of us who translated these treasures were animated with the desire to acquaint non-Jewish Esperantists with Jewish literature. Is there any reason why Esperanto should not serve Jewish culture in the sense claimed by Dr. Barou? Surely we have as much claim, or right, to this Jewish creation as other people have.

I would humbly suggest that, whenever the Jewish World Congress decides to do something for Jewish cultural development all over the world, without being hampered by the curse of Babel, it should give serious consideration to Esperanto. It could then avoid the huge expense of "a first class personnel to facilitate the translation into various languages of outstanding Jewish

literature" (I am quoting Dr. Barou's words). It can be done so much easier with Esperanto.

The W.J.C. with its considerable influence in the Jewish world could be a force leading to the study of Esperanto. It could be learned easily in every part of the world with the help of locally established Esperanto groups, now to be found everywhere. Or why not form Jewish Esperanto groups with this great object in view?

J. D. Applebaum

(Past Vice-President of The  
British Esperanto Association).

Kingfield Road,  
Sheffield, 11.

### NEW SHIPPING SERVICE

Sir,—We are very pleased to inform you that the Zim Israel Navigation Company, Limited, have been admitted to Membership of the Atlantic Conference.

Our recently acquired s/s "Jerusalem" will operate a regular passenger service between Haifa-Halifax and New York calling at Naples, Cannes and other Mediterranean ports on the way. Not less than six services, in either direction, will be operated in the first year starting on the 20th of October 1953, but the frequency will be gradually increased as the new constructions become available.

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# JEWISH AFFAIRS

## ZIONIST FEDERATION

### SOCIETY REPORTS

**Stamford Hill and District Z.S.:** The contrast between Herzl and Bialik was discussed by Dr. Chaim Rabin at a recent meeting of the Society. Herzl was an assimilated Western European Jew, almost unaware of the existence of a Jewish culture and seeing the Jewish problem and its solution in political terms, said Dr. Rabin.

His remedy for Jewish social abnormality was to turn the Jews into a modern-type nation, in which national culture must form an essential element, as Eliezer Ben-Yehuda had realised in 1879.

Bialik, on the other hand, was an East European Jew steeped in Hebrew culture. He was reluctant to undertake political action and saw the settlement of Eretz Israel as the regeneration of the Jewish spirit. There Jewish tradition would gain a new meaning.

This must be followed by the people as a whole acquiring cultural values. Bialik's *Mishna for the People* and his *Oneg Shabbat* (Sabbath Delight) institution, were an attempt to achieve this, Dr. Rabin said.

Yet despite differences the two men symbolised complementary aspects of Zionism—the political and the cultural—each of which was essential to the up-building of the State.

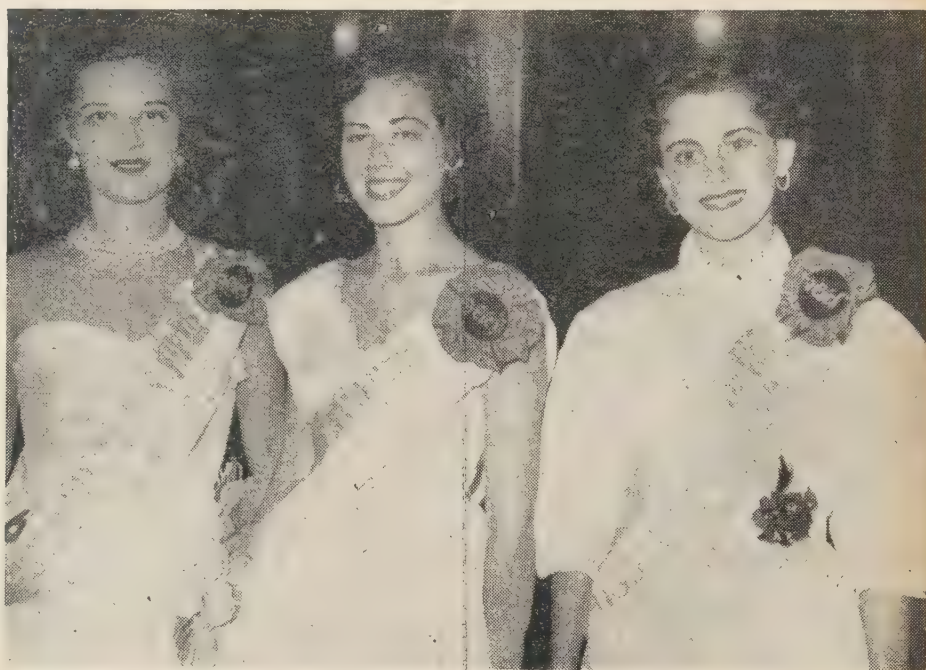
Today Herzl's Zionism had reached an important stage of fulfilment in the State of Israel. But Bialik's Zionism, as far as the people outside Israel were concerned, was largely unfulfilled, Dr. Rabin concluded.

**Edgware Z.S.:** The story of their five years in Israel—from 1948 till the present—was recently described to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. J. Wolfen, former prominent Zionist workers in Edgware.

As independent middle-class settlers attached to no party or organisation, they had to rely on their own resources, since a country geared for war and coping with mass European and Oriental immigration could offer them little individual assistance, said Mr. Wolfen.

Their first home in Israel for themselves and two daughters, consisted of two barely-furnished, tiny rooms on the outskirts of Tel Aviv; Mr. Wolfen's first job was that of a car-driver. Upheld by enthusiasm, they finally achieved a half-derelect house in Motza, near Jerusalem.

This has now become a comfortable home with fruit and vegetable producing



Left to Right: Miss Tel Aviv, Miss Jerusalem, Miss Haifa.

land attached, and a prosperous building material factory nearby. "For nothing in the world would we live in Edgware again," concluded Mr. Wolfen. He appealed for many more families from Edgware to join them.

**Manchester:** A Youth Festival is to be staged next December, the first of its kind in the country, following a decision of the Manchester Youth Council formed of representatives from eight local Zionist Youth Movements.

The aim of the Festival is to help increase the membership of the city's Zionist youth movements, and to stimulate the interest of local youth and that of their parents in Zionism, said Mrs. Naomi Coleman, Chairman of the Council.

Besides the presentation of plays with a specific Zionist appeal the Festival will include choirs, Hebrew dances and compositions.

Plans for a Youth Rally, a Modern Hebrew Educational Scheme, and a Speakers' Training Course were discussed at the first meeting of the Youth Council.

**Israel Club:** An Israel Club, which now has thirty members, has been formed at the Jews' Secondary School, Manchester. Club meetings, held at the school, include Hebrew sing-songs and Israeli folk dances. It is also hoped to arrange lectures about past and present Zionist per-

sonalities. The members correspond with pen-friends in Israel at the Evelina de Rothschild School. Similar clubs, it is hoped, will be established at other Jewish Day Schools in the Manchester and Salford and District area.

### ISRAEL AND JEWISH YOUTH

**Y.P.C. (N. London Group):** The need for links between Israel and the Diaspora—social, cultural, political and religious was stressed by Mr. S. W. Gold at a meeting of the N. London Group of the Young People's Committee of the J.N.F. in an address on "Israel and Anglo-Jewish Youth."

**Three Approaches:** The older generation approached Jewish problems in three ways, he said:

- ❑ by an over-anglicised, isolationist attitude, opposed to any link-ups with the rest of world Jewry;
- ❑ by an attempted intensification of religious dogma;
- ❑ or from a sentimental pseudo-Zionist angle.

**Israel the Answer:** But the younger generation could find in Israel both the answer to the Jewish future and to their own future, said Mr. Gold. He mentioned the *Shnat Sherut* (year of service) scheme in which, to date, over fifty per cent of the participants had elected to stay in Israel, though many previ-



asly had little contact with a full Jewish life.

The unity of Jewish life could be maintained if Anglo-Jewish education, especially Jewish Day Schools, would incorporate Modern Hebrew, a knowledge of Jewish history and of Jewish culture in their curriculum, the speaker added.

He also emphasised

¶ the value of personal links with Israel, through reading, correspondence and the interchange of visits between young Jews here and in Israel;

¶ the need for a changed outlook in the Anglo-Jewish Youth Club movement and for a larger Zionist Youth movement.

### BETH HA'EMEK "WATER FESTIVAL"

A "water Festival," including a ballet, play and folk-dancing was held on July 1 at the English Habonim Kibbutz of Beth Ha'Emek in Western Galilee to celebrate the discovery of water on the kibbutz. After four waterless years, water was finally struck some months ago, enabling the Kibbutz to sow its crops for the first time in well-watered soil.

The Festival also had the aim of celebrating the arrival of a small group of Habonim leaders who had been training at an established Kibbutz.

Large contingents from all the British Kibbutzim took part in the Festival. The Zionist Federation was represented by Mr. Temkin, Director of its Israel Office.

### HEBREW UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL CHANGES

Personnel changes at the University include Professor G. Scholem, Professor of Jewish Mysticism who has been elected head of the University's Institute of Jewish Studies for the two-year term of 1953/54 and 1954/55, and Professor H. J. Polotsky, Professor of Semitic and Egyptian Philology who has been elected Dean of the Faculty of Humanities for the same period.

Born in Zürich in 1905, Professor Polotsky was educated at the Universities of Berlin and Göttingen. Since coming to Palestine in 1934, he has been connected with the School of Oriental Studies of the University.

Recent visitors to the University include:

¶ Professor Kurt Goldstein, outstanding U.S. researcher in neurology, psychiatry and clinical psy-



*The Finaly children arrive in Israel with Rabbi Kahan of Grenoble.*

chology. He lectured at the University on "The Nature of Man" and "The Consequence of Brain Injuries";

¶ Professor Milton Rosenbaum, Professor of Psychiatry at the Univer-

sity of Cincinnati, to help in the establishment of a Unit of Psychiatry;

¶ Professor H. Tamiya of the University of Tokyo to discuss the mass culture of chlorella—a potential food source for animals;

¶ Professor Eli Ginzberg, Professor of Economics at Columbia who is giving two guest lectures at the University on "The Role of Human Resources in Economics" and "Manpower Policy in an Expanding Economy."

**Lectureship Trust:** A Lionel Cohen Lectureship Trust has been established by the Legal Group of the Friends of the Hebrew University in honour of their Chairman, the Rt. Hon. Lord Cohen. The Trustees are: Professor Norman Bentwich, the Hon. L. H. L. Cohen and Mr. Edmund de Rothschild. The address of the Trust is 237 Baker Street, London, N.W.1. The purpose of the Trust is to send to Jerusalem from time to time a distinguished British judge, lawyer or professor of law, to deliver a course of lectures on some aspect of English Law.

The first lecturer was Professor Arthur Goodhart, Q.C., Master of University College, Oxford, who visited Jerusalem last spring.

### RABBINICAL STUDY COURSE

The Jewish Agency Department for Torah Education and Culture is organising a six-months' course of study in Jerusalem for graduates or advanced students of Yeshivot and Rabbinical Seminaries.

*(Continued over, col. 2)*

### "CONQUEST OF THE DESERT" EXHIBITION

The following reductions and privileges will be available to holders of tourist passes for "The Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition:

Free Israel entry visa.

15 per cent. reduction on "Shoham-Zim" boats from 9.9.53 to 18.9.53 coming to Israel and 4.10.53 to 20.10.53 leaving Israel.

Organised tours in Israel at reduced rates.

The Tourist Pass serves as entrance tickets to the Exhibition grounds throughout the Exhibition.

30 per cent. reduction for admission to all artistic performances to be held in the Exhibition grounds throughout the Exhibition.

10 per cent. reduction to theatre performances of Habima, Chamber Theatre, the National Opera and 20 per cent. reduction to theatre performances of HaMata and Ohel.

10 per cent. reduction entrance ticket to the "Maccabiah."

25 per cent. reduction on inland railway tickets during the Exhibition.



## Classified Advertisements

Classified Advertisements and Forthcoming Events 6d. per word (heavy type 1/-). Box number 2/6d extra.

All announcements in this section are strictly prepaid and must be received by the first post Tuesday morning.

## PUBLICATIONS

"LABOUR ISRAEL," Mapam Journal. For Zionism, Socialism, World Peace. Annual Sub. 4/6d. from Mishmar Publications Ltd., 8 York Place, Strand, W.C.2.

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(Continued from previous page)

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The lectures and *shiurim* will be given by leading rabbis and scholars. There are already a number of candidates from the U.S.A., and applicants from this country can receive more detailed information from the Department at 35 Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

## PIONEER WOMEN

A farewell reception was recently given to Miss Naomi Lebor, General Secretary of Pioneer Women, who is returning to Israel. Tributes were paid to Miss Lebor by Mrs. Jezierski and Mrs. Mary Mikardo, respectively President and Chairman of Pioneer Women and a message of good wishes was received from Mme. Elath.

## MISCELLANEOUS

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## CALENDAR

(Times given are British Summer Time)

Sabbath begins Friday, August 7 at 8.0 p.m.  
Readings from Pentateuch Deuteronomy xi.26-xvi.17  
Readings from Prophets Isaiah liv.11-lv.5  
Sabbath ends Saturday, August 8, at 9.24 p.m.

## VOICE OF ZION

All times are British Summer Time.  
Wavelength 33.3m.

Sunday, 9th August

9.15 p.m. Newsreel. 9.30 p.m. Personal Column, Walter Eytan. 9.35 p.m. "The International Congress for the History of Science": A recorded account.

Monday, 10th August

9.15 p.m. Newsreel: Agricultural Survey. 9.30 p.m. "The Economic Front": A weekly feature presented by Avner Hovne. 9.45 p.m. Love Songs, sung by Shoshana Damari.

Tuesday, 11th August

9.15 p.m. Newsreel. 9.30 p.m. Kol Zion Choir. 9.45 p.m. "The Week's News," summarised by Jack Alexander.

Wednesday, 12th August

9.15 p.m. Newsreel. 9.30 p.m. "Zionist Review": Arthur Super. 9.45 p.m. Israeli Folk Dances.

Thursday, 13th August

9.15 p.m. Newsreel. 9.30 p.m. Names in the News. 9.35 p.m. "From East to West": Musical Greetings.

Friday, 14th August

9.15 p.m. Shabbat Shophetim: Readings and Legends. News. 9.30 p.m. The 50th anniversary of the Hebrew Teachers' Union. 9.45 p.m. Sabbath Songs: Leo Rosenbluth and the Kol Zion Choir.

Saturday, 15th August

9.15 p.m. Shavua Tov: News, Programme Highlights. "Horas and Marches": arranged by Shabbetai Petrushka. 9.30 p.m. The Week in the Knesset. 9.45 p.m. Melavch Malkah: The Melavsky Family.



## NATIONAL KOL NIDRE APPEAL FOR ISRAEL

### The Chief Rabbi's Call:

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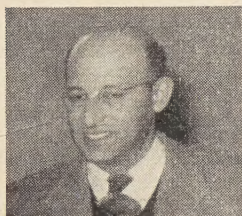
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## LIVERPOOL'S APPEAL TOTAL RISING TO LAST YEAR'S LEVEL

### A PROGRESS REPORT FROM MERSEYSIDE

More than £26,000, contributed by 738 subscribers, is the result to date of money raised for Israel in Liverpool's 1953 J.P.A. campaign.



Mr. Leo Levy

During the whole of last year £26,500 was raised from 805 donors.

This was revealed at a meeting of the Liverpool executive which took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Levy last week. Mr. Levy, chairman of this year's committee, presided.

**Special Drive:** Pointing out that the committee intended to inaugurate a special drive so as to bring in outstanding contributions and wind up the cam-

paign by the middle of September, Mr. Levy said that this would involve a particularly intensive spurt of canvassing. He paid some attention to Liverpool's medical list of subscribers which, he said, showed signs of improved results this year.

Among those present at the meeting were Messrs.: M. Moorshack, H. Polak, S. Bennett, M. Roskin, H. Samuels, B. Solomon, S. Samuels, D. Wolf, Dr. I. Harris, Dr. H. Woolwich and E. L. Fagin, general secretary.

The meeting terminated with thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Levy for their usual generous hospitality.

### SYNAGOGUE APPEAL

Boards of Management requiring assistance this Kol Nidrei should consult J.P.A. Head Office now.

## PIONEER CITY IN PROFILE

### BEERSHEBA TODAY

It was in 1942 that the British army staff car in which I was travelling from Jerusalem to Cairo, in the company of a South African colleague, broke down not far from Beersheba. The mending took some time, and we decided to have a look at this landmark of the Negev. As a Jew, I had never before dared to visit this place. It consisted of a number of small Arab houses, surrounding the Mosque, the Police Station and the Government building. That was all. "Here is the heart of Arab nationalism," a local official told us, "this country will never be penetrated by modern Jewish colonization." So it looked indeed ten years ago.

In the meantime I have seen Beersheba on several occasions, ever since it was conquered in the dawn of a grey October day in 1948 by a small force of young Israeli soldiers, mostly new immigrants, who later formed the nucleus of the first settlers in this desert town.

Things have moved very quickly in Beersheba. After a short period of military administration, groups of newcomers streamed towards the empty houses: young Israel war veterans, many of them Sabras, decided to settle "in the desert." The vast spaces, the rapidly growing new enterprises attracted more and more newcomers. Public and private institutions realised that the old spirit of the pioneering Yishuv was living in this town. Every pound invested, every ton of raw materials, every machine, every car produced better results than elsewhere—nobody knew exactly why.

Soon a Hadassah hospital was opened, complete with operating theatre, X-ray department and maternity wards—long before other towns got one. Solel Boneh is just completing a civic centre with cinema, club, swimming pool, playground and lecture halls. No place in Israel can yet boast of a centre like this.

In the vast area surrounding Beersheba a mining industry has sprung up. Phosphates, quartz, kaoline, copper and iron ore mines are expanding, giving the town the atmosphere of a mining centre. The pipeline bringing water from the far north was laid with utmost speed, and

(Continued next page)

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## JPA - JNF NEWS

**BEERSHEBA—from page 21**

now the lands around the town are being irrigated. Hundreds of thousands of saplings have been planted: the desert is being pushed back.

When I was in Beersheba again last week, walking through the now familiar but ceaselessly changing streets, I felt a vitality, an efficiency you can hardly experience elsewhere, and least of all in

## TREES IN ERETZ ISRAEL

**London**

A Park of 300 trees in the name of the Nelson St. Sphardish Synagogue by the East London J.N.F. Commission.

40 trees in the names of Jean Jaques Ullman and Isobel Danon on the occasion of their Marriage. February.

18 trees in the names of Dr. Avrom Saltman and Miss Ilse Rabinowicz on the occasion of their Marriage by the Executive of the Mizrahi Women's Organisation. 22nd March.

**Dagenham**

12 trees in the name of Mrs. R. J. Chesney to commemorate her visit to Jerusalem, and in memory of the 12 tribes of Israel. 3rd April.

**Manchester**

30 trees by the Manchester Daughters of Zion in the names of Mr. and Mrs. S. Freedman for their continuity and steadfastness for Israel. 7th February.

30 trees in the name of Jeffrey Michael Cohen on the occasion of his Barmitzvah by his parents. 28th February.

30 trees in memory of Mrs. Rachel Blond by her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Blond. 15th December, 1952.

15 trees in the names of Pearl Marland and Harold Gruber on the occasion of their marriage by their parents. 24th June.

15 trees in memory of Falk and Annie Esther Mendelsohn by members of the family. April.

13 trees in the name of Sydney Brown on the occasion of his Barmitzvah by the Manchester Daughters of Zion in appreciation of his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. I. Brown's services to W.I.Z.O. 21st December, 1952.

**Westcliff**

13 trees by the Southend & Westcliff Youth Aliyah in the name of Robert Samuel Fisher on the occasion of his Barmitzvah in appreciation of the service rendered to Youth Aliyah by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Fisher. 25th July.

**Lublin**

A Garden of 100 trees by Gertrud Windholz, in the names of Konrad and Renée Tomaschoff (née Windholz) in memory of the 6,000,000 Jews perished on the Continent through Hitlerism. July, 1942.

a place with such a high percentage of newcomers.

"Nearly twenty per cent. of our adult population are studying or training for something in organised courses, and a lot more are learning privately," a municipal official told us. "The Hebrew courses and the building, mechanical and carpentry training centres are constantly besieged and have already opened additional classes."

People are trying to make the best of their leisure. Dramatic and literary circles have been organised. Women of all classes and origins have joined circles doing useful work. The alertness and activity of a wartime community living under the strain and enthusiasm of an all-out national effort, seems to be alive here.

I walked to the spot where ten years ago our car had broken down. A few hundred yards away are the ruins of heroic Beth-Eshel, the tiny Jewish settlement whose stout-hearted brave inhabitants made the conquest of Beersheba possible. Even the underground fortifications of this small island in an Arab sea had been destroyed, but the last of the inhabitants, supplied from the air, lived on to take part in the final assault on the town which had been a main Egyptian invasion base.

Across the road, the entire panorama has changed. Thousands of neat, new buildings, in large symmetrical groups, are dotting the colourful landscape. Broad green patches of young trees and lawns are dividing the residential and industrial areas from each other.

The old town, bustling with traffic

## INScribed IN THE GOLDEN BOOK

**Grimsby**

In memory of Rosie Levinson, who passed away on October, 1917, by her husband, Mr. J. Levinson. 1953.

**Leeds**

Brenda Berson and David Isaac Davies on the occasion of their Marriage by their parents. 26th July.

**Liverpool**

Barry J. Finn and Pauline Simmons on the occasion of their Marriage by Mr. and Mrs. S. Finn, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Simmons. 3rd August.

**London-Manchester**

Maureen Gaffin and Gustav J. Sarling on the occasion of their Marriage by their parents. 26th July.

**Manchester**

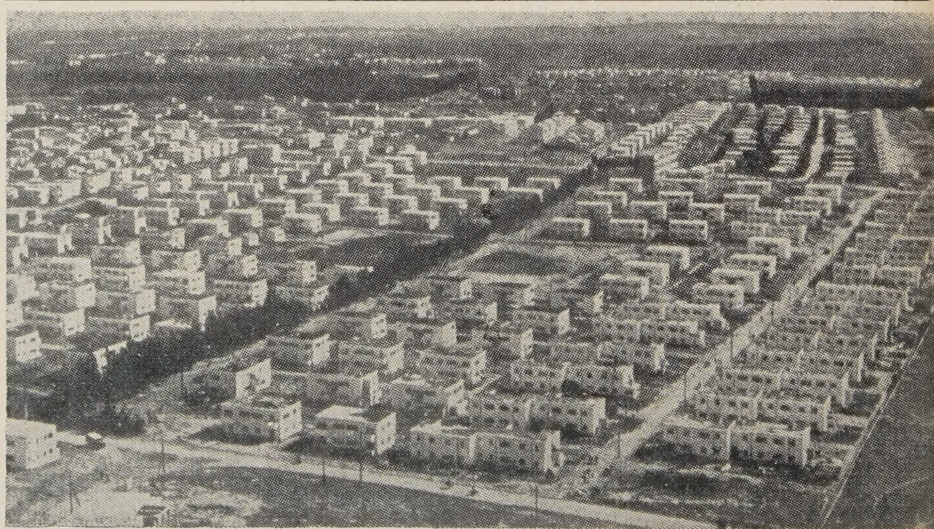
Aubrey Snowise and Evelyn Salem on the occasion of their Marriage by their parents. 29th June.

Barbara Estelle Benster and Stuart Victor Whiteson on the occasion of their Marriage at the South Manchester Synagogue, by their parents. 27th July.

Adele Helen Mason and Bernard David Kay on the occasion of their Marriage at the Holy Law Synagogue by the parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. S. Mason. 23rd July.

and movement, is untidy as a result of building activities. A continuous convoy of trucks and road construction machinery was roaring along the Tel Aviv road, coming from what they call here "the Far North." "They've broken through to the Dead Sea, and this is the finishing

(Continued next page)



New housing estate at Beersheba.



## JPA-JNF NEWS

WADSWORTH OF THE  
"GUARDIAN"  
IN THE GOLDEN BOOK

Following the great tradition which C. P. Scott and W. P. Crozier set by their help to the Zionist cause, their successor in the editorial chair of the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. A. P. Wadsworth, has for many years been a staunch supporter of Zionism in the city which occupies a unique role in the story of modern Jewish nationalism.

In recognition of Mr. Wadsworth's services and to mark his return from his first visit to Israel, leading members of the Manchester Zionist Movement presented him with a framed certificate which records that his name had been inscribed by another Manchester man, Mr. Sam Roland, in the Golden Book in Jerusalem.

The certificate was handed to Mr. Wadsworth on behalf of his colleagues by Mr. Norman M. Jacobs, B.Com., a vice-president of the Manchester Zionist Central Council, who praised Mr. Wadsworth's help to the cause. Mr. Emanuel Raffles, J.P., chairman of the Manchester J.N.F. Commission, said that inscription in the Golden Book was the highest honour Jewry could bestow.

The nine-strong deputation was introduced to Mr. Wadsworth by the president of the Manchester Zionist Central Council, Mr. Bert Adler, and included the honorary life-president, Dr. P. I. Wigoder, Mr. S. Bernstein, one of the oldest active Zionist workers in Manchester and the Central Council's honorary life vice-president, Mrs. Anita Bursk, and Messrs. F. Friedland, P. Gold and Sam Roland. A photograph of the ceremony was published in this journal last week.

## BEERSHEBA—cont.

"... a driver said. Then a huge tourist sightseeing car whizzed past into the street leading up to the Beersheba Hotel. "Next time when I go to Beersheba, I'll use the new railway," my friend remarked, pointing at a heavy crane lifting rails on to the elevated ground. "The car takes far too long with all this traffic about."

Twilight fell when we left Beersheba. Looking back from a bend in the road was greeted by several neon lights emerging from the descending darkness and waving a last farewell.

Eleazar Laserson  
(K.H. Feature)

ORDER "FAITHFUL CITY" NOW—AND GUARANTEE  
SUCCESSFUL FUNCTIONS THIS AUTUMN

## J.N.F.'S ALL-ENGLISH FEATURE FILM AVAILABLE

The first full-length feature film ever to be made in the State of Israel, "Faithful City," starring British television personality John Slater, is available for bookings by J.N.F. commissions throughout this country during the forthcoming season.

Strong demand has been registered at the J.N.F. Head Office for showings of a film which records a great act of history in vivid dialogue and dramatic incident. Commissions everywhere should be exhibiting "Faithful City" as a supreme fund-raising medium for their autumn and winter campaigns. During its commercial release in America last year, "Faithful City" was the subject of favourable comment in the American press and it has also been shown with great success in Israel itself. "Faithful City" was one of the highlights of last year's Venice Film Festival and it was given high praise for its authentic scenery of Jerusalem during the days of its siege and for the group of child actors, many of whom came from European D.P. camps, whose performances are characterised by sincerity and charm.

Lavish publicity material, including a poster and well-illustrated coloured brochure, is available at J.N.F. Head Office. Make sure your commission organises a showing of "Faithful City" as part of its autumn programme.

## SOUTH WEST LONDON

Once again a Boxing Tournament, organised under the auspices of the South West London Zionist Society in aid of the J.N.F. Charitable Trust is to be held at the Streatham Ice Rink. The date is October 20th, and a committee has been formed, known as the South West London Boxing Committee with the following hon. officers: president, Dr. A. P. Magonet; vice-presidents, Rev. M. Davidson, Mr. M. Halperin, Dr. M. I. Cornick, Mr. S. Levin, and Mr. N. Sonn; chairman, Mr. Woolf Perry; vice-chairman, Mr. I. Frankfurt; hon. treasurer, Mr. G. Karsberg; hon. secretary, Mr. S. G. Flitman.

Any friends will be welcome at the next committee meeting on August 17, 8.30 p.m. at the S.W. London Synagogue Hall, Bolingbroke Grove.

## This week's best boxes

LONDON		£ s. d.	
<b>East</b>			
Mr. A. Conn, 1 Oley Place ...	7	0	0
Messrs. Parness & Steinfield, Gt. Trinity Lane ...	3	10	6
Elco Clocks & Watches Ltd., 51 Hatton Gardens ...	3	0	0
Mr. Abrams, 40 Hatton Gardens ...	2	14	1
Staff of Paramount Diamond Polishing Co. Ltd., 1 Farrington Road ...	2	4	6
<b>West</b>			
Piccadilly Club, 5/7 Denman Street ...	10	4	6
Kestel & Davy, 317 Oxford Street ...	7	2	6
Mr. Isaac Woolfson, 74 Portland Place ...	3	0	0
Miss N. Fox, Brenner Sports, 65 Grosvenor Street ...	2	14	0
Mr. H. Hill, 6 Princess Court ...	2	13	6
<b>North-West</b>			
Mr. M. Levene, 216 Hendon Way ...	10	15	0
Mr. D. Kaye, 6 Green Lane ...	8	1	9
Mr. Lesser, 5 Allington Court ...	5	10	0
Mr. M. Aluman, 23 Talbot Crescent ...	3	10	0
Mr. I. H. Neuberger, 185 Melrose Avenue ...	3	0	0
Mrs. Lipman, 51 Hillside Court ...	2	18	0
Mr. M. Cohen, 8 Dorchester Gardens ...	2	13	0
Mrs. M. Beny, 9 Sherbourne, Holders Hill Road ...	2	10	0
Mrs. F. Spitzer, 5 Bermans Way ...	2	10	0
Dr. Kustow, 44 Staverton Road ...	2	9	4
Mr. S. Gence, 27 Rutland Park Mansions ...	2	8	0
Mrs. Feltz, 2 Alvanley Court ...	2	7	6
Mrs. Domaine, 112 Greenfield Gardens ...	2	4	0
Mr. P. Michels, 36 Sherrick Green Road ...	2	2	0
Cricklewood Synagogue, Walm Lane ...	2	0	0
Mr. Leo Hecksher, 45 Teignmouth Road ...	2	0	0
<b>South-East</b>			
Pilyon Haben per Mr. M. Himan, Avenue Court, Avenue Road ...	5	5	0
<b>South-West</b>			
Mr. J. Hersch, 2 Conner Fields ...	3	2	6
<b>Edgware</b>			
Mr. H. Hassan, 21 Orchard Close ...	5	10	0
Mrs. B. Collins, 10 St. Margaret's Road ...	3	7	0
Mrs. M. Marcus, 53 St. Margaret's Road ...	2	5	6
Miss Jacqueline Newman, 45 Mill Ridge ...	2	3	5
Mr. Gale, 164 Beverley Drive ...	2	0	0
Mr. B. Solomons, 130 Edgwarebury Lane ...	2	0	0
<b>Ilford</b>			
Ilford Federated Synagogue Classes ...	4	1	2½
Mr. G. Harris, 19 Fernhall Drive ...	2	0	0
<b>Sutton</b>			
Mr. J. Cohen, 6 Christchurch Park ...	2	0	0
<b>BRIGHTON &amp; HOVE</b>			
Mr. Lemberger, 27 First Avenue ...	3	5	5
Mr. Preveser, 4 Grand Avenue ...	3	4	0
Mr. Ritter, 1 Somerhill Avenue ...	3	0	0
Mr. E. W. Wolfe, 20 The Drive ...	2	15	9
Beach Hotel, Regency Square ...	2	7	8
Mr. Hoffman, 35 Pembroke Avenue ...	2	2	0
Mr. McDermott, 23 Wick Hall ...	2	1	3
Mr. J. Radburn, 14 Grand Avenue ...	2	0	0
<b>NEWCASTLE</b>			
Mr. V. F. Meyer, 194 Jesmond Dene Rd., 2 ...	17	12	6
Mr. J. Levine, 78 Manor House Road, 2 ...	8	8	0
Mr. A. Ingram, 77 Grosvenor Avenue, 2 ...	7	2	0
Mrs. Sheare, 2 Moor Court, 3 ...	6	10	0
Mrs. Solomons, Gateshead, 14 Regent ...	6	0	0
Mrs. S. Tavroges, 14 Bemerside Drive, 2 ...	5	9	8
Mr. Rosen, 13 Fernville Road, 3 ...	5	9	2
Dr. C. K. Shadwick, 51 Granville Court, 2 ...	5	0	10
Mrs. Freedman, 7 West Parade ...	4	12	10
Dr. S. Mark, 42 Reid Park Road, 2 ...	4	7	6
Mr. N. Hyman, 11 Towers Avenue, 2 ...	4	6	6
Mr. Abrahams, 4 Queen's Terrace, 2 ...	4	4	0
Mr. I. Burger, 19 Crossway, 2 ...	4	0	0
Mr. M. Maier, 8 Osborne Villas, 2 ...	3	17	6
Mr. S. Dresner, 13 Purley Gardens, 3 ...	3	13	0



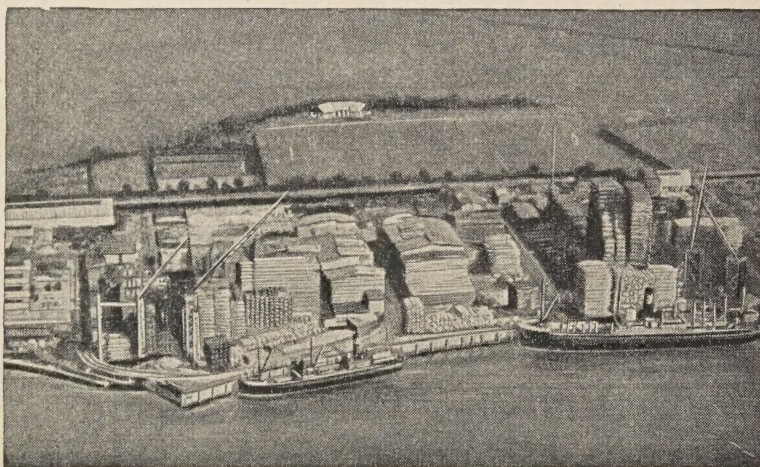
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